Serial No. Not Yet Assigned Atty. Doc. No. 2004P00001WOUS

ABSTRACT

Disclosed is a method for allocating transmission capacity to a threshold value based on an expected volume of traffic, said threshold value being used for restricting traffic in a communication network featuring threshold – based access controls. According to the inventive method, a portion of transmission capacity is allocated to the threshold value that is least likely to be blocked according to the expected volume of traffic if an amount of free capacity which corresponds to said portion of transmission capacity is available on the links used for transmitting traffic authorized based on the access control, thus allowing for the most balanced or fair allocation of free transmission capacity to threshold value or access controls. Further embodiments of the invention relate to the optimization of the value of the portion of transmission capacity as well as to taking into account disturbance scenarios. In order to take into account disturbance scenarios, the threshold values are set such that buffer capacity is provided for absorbing incidents occurring in the network.